

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

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P R 150910Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6598
DOD WASHDC/ISA
INFO CSAF WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
CJCS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 3693

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DOD WASHDC/ISA FOR DSAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR
SUBJECT: VISIT BY CSAF GENERAL JONES TO YUGOSLAIVA

SUMMARY: AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL DAVID C. JONES
CONCLUDED A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL 4 DAY VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA ON 9
MAY. IN ADDITION TO MEETINGS WITH HIS COUNTERPART, COLONEL
GENERAL ENVER CEMALOVIC, GENERAL JONES ALSO MET WITH THE
FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE GENERAL NIKOLA
LJUBICIC AND WITH THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF GENERAL
STANE POTOVAR. IN ADDITION TO THE ROUTINE BRIEFINGS AND
PROTOCOL ASSOCIATED WITH THIS VISIT, MILITARY COOPERATION
WAS ALSO DISCUSSED.

DETAILS:

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1. GENERAL JONES, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY LIEUTENANT GENERAL
(RET) BRENT SCOWCROFT, WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY GENERAL CEMALOVIC,
GENERAL POTOVAR AND OTHERS WITH WHOM HE CAME IN CONTACT. HE
WAS BRIEFED ON THE YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE BY GENERAL CEMALOVIC
AND ON TOTAL NATIONAL DEFENSE BY GENERAL POTOVAR AND HIS STAFF.

2. GENERAL JONES WITNESSED A DEMONSTRATION OF THE YUGOSLAV

PRODUCED ORAO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, AT BATAJNICA AIRFIELD
NEAR BELGRADE, VISITED THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY AT ZADAR, AND AIR
FORCE HEADQUARTERS AT ZEMUN.

3. DURING THE 4 DAY VISIT A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS CONCERNING
MILITARY COOPERATION WERE RAISED BY THE YUGOSLAV SIDE:

A. YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE IS STILL EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN
OBTAINING AN AIRCRAFT ENGINE FOR THE ORAO 2, AND AIRCRAFT WHICH
THEY ENVISION FOR THE MID-1980'S. THEIR INTEREST AT THE
PRESENT TIME IS CENTERED AROUND THE TF 30 PRATT AND WHITNEY
ENGINE, AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY WILL SOON OFFICIALLY REQUEST
AN OPINION FROM THE USG CONCERNING AVAILABILITY OF THIS
ENGINE (PROBABLY P414 MODEL). GENERAL CEMALOVIC ALSO INDICATED
THAT YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE DESIRED TO SEND COMBINED MILITARY/
COMMERCIAL TECHNICAL TEAM TO PRATT-WHITNEY TO DETERMINE YUGOSLAV
CAPABILITY FOR PRODUCTION OF ENGINE AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE
PRODUCTION PROBLEMS.

B. THE SECOND MOST IMPORTANT ITEM FOR THE YUGOSLAV AIR
FORCE, ACCORDING TO GENERAL CEMALOVIC, IS A TACTICAL AIR TO
SURFACE MISSILE WITH A 10KM RANGE. A YAF REQUEST TO PURCHASE
MAVERICK HAS BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THE USG, HOWEVER GENERAL
CEMALOVIC REITERATED HIS HOPE THAT US WOULD MAKE A SUITABLE
WEAPON AVAILABLE FOR THE ORAO WITH POSSIBILITY OF LICENSED
PRODUCTION.
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C. GENERAL CEMALOVIC ALSO INTRODUCED A NEW REQUEST FOR A
TOW TARGET SYSTEM WHICH THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY ONLY HINTED
AT. GENERAL JONES ASSURED GENERAL CEMALOVIC THAT A
QUICK ANSWER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING AS SOON AS THE REQUEST
WAS RECEIVED THROUGH ESTABLISHED CHANNELS.

D. THE YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE WITH THE
RECENTLY DISESTABLISHED COMMAND AND STAFF SCHOOL PROGRAM,
AND SEND TWO OFFICERS EVERY OTHER YEAR TO MAXWELL AFB.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 3693

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E. AS FAR AS OTHER TRAINING IS CONCERNED, THEY ARE STILL INTERESTED IN SENDING SELECTED OFFICERS TO EITHER AFIT OR CIVILIAN UNIVERSITIES FOR ADVANCED DEGRESS IN AERO-SCIENCES, AND WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEND TWO OFFICERS TO THE TEST PILOT SCHOOL AT EDWARDS AFB. GENERAL PASTROVIC, CHIEF OF YAF TECHNICAL SERVICES, STATED THAT A LETTER CONCERNING ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CENTER HAD BEEN SENT THROUGH YUGOSLAV ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, WITH NO RESPONSE. SINCE DATT HERE WAS UNAWARE LETTER HAD BEEN FORWARDED THROUGH YUGOSLAV EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WE WERE UNABLE TO COMMENT ON THE LACK OF US RESPONSE. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THIS SUBJECT.

F. GENERAL POPOVIC, DEPUTY CHEIF FOR PROCUREMENT, RAISED SUBJECT OF TROPOSCATTER DEMONSTRATION, AND ASSERTED THAT GOY WOULD NOT PAY FOR DEMONSTRATION. HE STATED THAT NO OTHER
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COUNTRY REQUIRED PAYMENT TO LOOK AT EQUIPMENT, AND THEY COULD NOT FATHOM WHY A POSSIBLE SALE OF 16.2 MILLION SHOULD BE JEOPORDIZED FOR SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WITH HIS GOVERNMENT.

4. DURING COURSE OF MEETINGS, YUGOSLAVS CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THAT PUBLICITY IS HURTING OUR COOPERATION, THAT ALL COUNTRIES GRANT BETTER CONDITIONS FOR SALES THAN US, BUT YUGOSLAVS BELIEVE US TECHNOLOGY IS BEST, AND THAT THEY DESIRE TO REDUCE DEPENDENCY UPON ONE MAJOR SUPPLIER. FOR THE FIRST TIME, GOY HAS RAISED THE SUBJECT OF FMS CREDITS. SO FAR, THEY

HAVE NOT BEEN SPECIFIC IN THEIR REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT...
EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED EARLY MEETING WITH NATIONAL DEFENSE
SECRETARIAT TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. DURING SHORT MEETING WITH GENERAL LJUBICIC, THE SUBJECT OF
HIS SEPTEMBER VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES WAS MENTIONED AND
LJUBICIC RESPONDED VERY POSITIVELY, STATING HE HAD NEVER
VISITED US, HAD BEEN UNABLE TO GET SECRETARY MCNAMARA OR
LAIRD HERE, AND WAS HAPPY TO BE RETURNING LAST OCTOBER'S
VISIT BY SECRETARY BROWN. HE INDICATED THAT HE HAD NO
SPECIFIC DESIRES CONNECTED WITH THE VISIT AT THIS TIME.
LJUBICIC'S CHEF DE CABINET MENTIONED TO DATT THAT SECOND
HALF OF SEPTEMBER WOULD BE BEST PERIOD FOR THE VISIT.

6. EMBASSY VIEW OF VISIT IS THAT IT HAS CONSIDERABLY ENHANCED
OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIP. GENERALS POTOCAR AND CEMALOVIC
COULD NOT HAVE BEEN WARMER IN THEIR RECEPTION OF GENERAL
JONES. THE MEETING WITH GENERAL LJUBICIC WAS SHOWN ON TELEVISION,
AND PAPERS CARRIED STORIES OF ARRIVAL AND MEETINGS. THE
PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND LJUBICIC'S VISIT TO THE US WILL BE
IMPORTANT, IN THAT SOME MAJOR DECISIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE
PRIOR TO LJUBICIC'S ARRIVAL. WHETHER OR NOT THE USG WILL ASSIST
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YUGOSLAVIA IN THE PRODUCTION OF A SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT,
INTENDED TO RELIEVE THEIR DEPENDENCY ON THE USSR FOR FIGHTER
AIRCRAFT, MAY WELL DETERMINE THE EXTENT AND QUALITY OF FUTURE
MILITARY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
EAGLEBURGER

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